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THE EARLY HISTORY

OF THE

LODGE "DE GOEDE HOOP,"

1772—1781,

WITH THE

Provisional Warrant,
Petitions for a Warrant,
Warrant from the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands,

AND

List of Officers.

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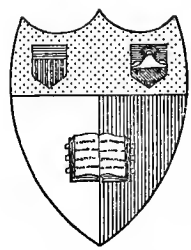

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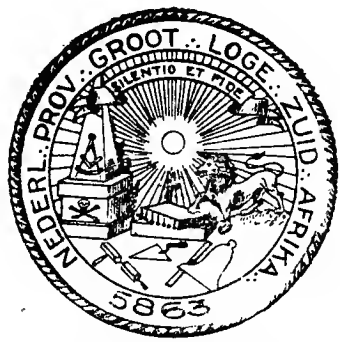
The Provincial Grand Lodge in South Africa

(TRANSVAAL EXCEPTED),

UNDER THE GRAND EAST OF THE NETHERLANDS.



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The W.·.M.·. of the Lodge "De Goede Hoop."
The W.·.M.·. of the Lodge "De Goede Trouw."
Bro. C. FRED. SILBERBAUER, Commissioner in Europe.

The Early History of the Lodge "De Goede Hoop"

1772—1781.

CAPE TOWN:

PRINTED AT THE CITADEL PRESS, 126, LOOP STREET.

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THE EARLY HISTORY

OF

The Lodge "De Goede Hoop."

By O. H. Bate (Provincial Grand Master), Chairman of the Provincial Grand Historical Commission.

The establishment of a Lodge at the Cape of Good Hope had occupied the attention of the Officers of the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands even before that body gained its complete independence of England on 16th May, 1770, and it is recorded in a letter of authority issued to Bro. George Steendekker on 13th May, 1769, that the matter had then been under consideration for a considerable time past. In view of what we know of the early history of the Lodge, it is interesting to note that the authorities at the Hague thought its establishment advisable "in order to afford advantages for correspondence, and that all outgoing and incoming Brethren should have facility to visit the same in a lawful manner." In the letter mentioned, the Grand Officers gave as their reason for not having carried out their laudable intention, that they had up to that time been unable to find a fit and experienced Brother to undertake the work of founding a Lodge; in Bro. George Steendekker, however, they appear to have thought they had found the man they needed, and he was appointed Deputy Grand Master abroad, with authority to grant a Constitution, subject to ratification by the Grand Lodge, and to make all necessary arrangements. There is no record of any attempt which Bro. Steendekker made to carry out the commission entrusted to him, and whatever efforts he made must have been unsuccessful, for it was left to another Brother to found the first Lodge in South Africa. On 20th September, 1771, the Grand Master, Bro. van Boetzelaer, appointed Bro. Abraham van der Weyde, described as a member of the Very Worshipful Provincial Lodge "Salomon" of Bengal, to convey certain books, letters, and documents to the Lodges in the Indies, empowering him to officially visit all Lodges abroad, and receive communications and dues from them in the absence of Bro. Steendekker, and requiring all lawfully constituted Lodges to consider and acknowledge him as "Deputy." Acting on the authority thus given Bro. van der Weyde, some seven months later, established the Lodge "De Goede Hoop," and not very long afterwards "installed" the Lodge "La Fidele Sinceritie" in Batavia. The earliest recorded meeting of the former Lodge was held, under the presidency of Bro. van der Weyde, on 2nd May, 1772, when the following B.·.B.·. were elected as Officers:—

Abraham Chiron, W.·.M..
Jacobus Alexander La Febre, S.·.W.·.
Pieter Soermans, J.·.W.·.
Jan Coenraad Gie, Secretary.
Christoffel Brand, Treasurer.

The motto "Spes vincit omnia impedimenta" was adopted, as well as the device still used as the seal of the Lodge, and green was chosen as the Lodge colour. These particulars are given in the Petition for a Warrant (see appendix B) signed three days later, which is the only available source of information, and from it we learn further that at the same meeting B.·.B.·. P. Soermans, J. A. La Febre, J. C. Gie and C. Brand were received as Masters; and B.·.B.·. Petrus Johannes de Wit, Johannes Adrianus van Schoor, Barend Hendrik Reede van Oudshoorn, Oloff Godlieb de Wet, and Johannes Snijders as Entered Apprentices.

On 4th May, Bro. Abraham van der Weyde, styling himself Second Deputy Grand Master, issued a Provisional Warrant (see appendix A) formally constituting the Lodge, with authority to confer the degrees of Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master; this document must have been sent to the Hague, and cannot at present be traced; the Lodge possesses a copy, in which the names of the B. .B. . to whom it was granted are not specified, certified by Bro. F. A. van Rappard, who was Grand Secretary for the Netherlands, 1843-52. Nothing further is known of Bro. van der Weyde than that he was styled "Captain," and must have died not very long after his visit to the Cape; he did not apparently return to Holland. Of Bro. Steendekker also we know nothing beyond his name, and he seems to have neither influenced nor taken any part in South African Masonry.

There are some circumstaces which tend to create an impression that the meeting on 2nd May was not the first masonic one held in Cape Town. On 30th April, 1779, Bro. Louis Jean Duval applied for a fresh certificate, stating that he had lost the one originally granted to him, and that he had been initiated before the Lodge was constituted; Bro. Sir Christoffel J. Brand, in an address delivered on the occasion of the centenary of the Lodge (1st. Nov., 1872) stated that Bro. Chiron established it in May, 1772, under his own Provisional Warrant, which he issued by virtue of his possession of the Rose Croix degree; and Bro. M. A. Bergh, a South African-born young man, who joined the Lodge immediately on its establishment, had already taken the first two degrees when he did so; while Bro. C. H. van Zyl remembers hearing long ago that periodically, when the ships of the East India Company trading between Holland and Batavia called here for refreshments, there would be a Lodge meeting, and this was generally held in a private room of the local Governor. There is no inherent improbability in the idea that Bro. Chiron, who was a Mason when he came to South Africa in 1769, having affiliated to the Lodge "Zur Einigkeit," Frankfort-on-Main, on 14th April, 1765, may have conferred degrees on his own account, and it is even possible that he may have initiated the foundation members of the Lodge "De Goede Hoop" before Bro. van der Weyde's coming, for the record we have of the meeting on 2nd May, 1772, does not make use of the usual expression, and say that certain B.·.B.·. were "accepted," but that they were "received," which may mean only recognised as holding certain degrees. It is quite clear that Bro. Sir C. J. Brand was under a misapprehension when he ascribed to Bro. Chiron the issuing of the Provisional Warrant of May, 1772, but when making the statement referred to, he may have had in his mind some record of early, and what would in these days be described as irregular, workings of the Brother in question, all trace of which has since been lost. On the other hand, as the Minutes we have are incomplete, Bro. Duval may have been initiated after May, 1772, and previous to some unrecorded ceremony of constitution when the Warrant was received from Holland; and Bro. Bergh may have travelled to Europe and been initiated and passed there, while Bro.

van Zyl's recollections may possibly refer to the period 1781-4. It is impossible to arrive at any definite conclusion, and the matter must remain doubtful.

A formal petition for a Warrant was drawn up on 5th May; this is addressed to Isaac van Teylingen as Grand Master National, although he was actually "Deputy" only, and did not attain the higher office until 1798, it being held at the time by Bro. Carel Baron van Boetzelaer. The petition shows that there were nine foundation members, the B.·.B.·. in addition to the five elected as officers being:—

Petrus Johannes de Wit.
Johannes Adrianus van Schoor.
Barend Hendrik Reede van Oudshoorn.
Oloff Godlieb de Wet.

Bro. Reede van Oudshoorn's signature does not appear on the original document, a space is left for it, with the remark "niet prezent'.'

As the petition is unusual in form, and contains the earliest record of a masonic meeting in South Africa, it is considered worthy of reproduction in full. (See appendix B.)

There is no record of any formal constitution or consecration of the Lodge, or of the installation of the Master, and as in the following years there seems to have been no ceremony of installation, but the Master and Officers apparently assumed office immediately they were elected, we may fairly conclude that they did so in the first instance, and that the Lodge was considered duly founded on 2nd May, 1772.

The first entry in the original Minute Book is under the date of 9th May, 1772, and the meeting is described as an Entered Apprentice Lodge. There is nothing to indicate that the proceedings were those of a newly-founded body, the Lodge was opened by the Worshipful "Grand Master," Abm. Chiron, with the (accustomed) ceremony, and the proposition of three candidates for initiation was at once proceeded with, a ballot was taken and proved favourable. The Entered Apprentice Lodge was then closed, and a Master Mason's one opened; Bro. Marthinus Adriaan Bergh, described as "Compagnon," was balloted for, both as a candidate for raising and joining, and was raised to the "Sublime Degree of Master" and elected a Member of the Lodge. The Master Masons' Lodge was closed, and the Entered Apprentice one re-opened. The passing of Bro. O. G. de Wet to the 2nd degree was discussed, an application was received from Bro. John Tabbenier, M.:.M.:. of London, to become a member of this "Venerable" Lodge, and it was decided to initiate Joost Hendrik Stammer, gratis, at next meeting, with a view to his serving the Lodge, and to pay him two Rixdollars monthly. The use of the term "Grand Master" does not denote any special rank attaching to Bro. Chiron; it was a common continental custom to apply the title to the presiding officer of a Lodge, the head of the Grand Lodge being distinguished as Grand Master National.

The Lodge met again on 21st. May and adopted a code of bye-laws, 22 in number; these are now in part illegible, and a complete reproduction of them is consequently impossible. In No. 1 it is stipulated that in case of a ballot, two contrary votes shall exclude a candidate, and No. 11 provides that "the receptions as Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master shall not take place at less than 10 Ducats, 6 Ducats, and 8 Ducats respectively." The Bye-laws were signed by the ten members of the Lodge, the nine founders and Bro. M. A. Bergh, who figures as Orator. Bro. C. Brand signs as "Terrible" an office equivalent to Preparator, or in an English Lodge Deacon; his place as Treasurer was filled at the following meeting by the election of Bro. P. J. de Wit.

The Lodge did not evince any disposition to push on its members, as a proposition to pass Bro. J. A. van Schoor to the second degree, although put forward by the Orator, was rejected. On 4th June, a further Serving Brother was accepted, in the person of Frederick Willem Middelstedt, and the Lodge seems in its early days to have had as a rule two serving B.·.B. . at a time, whom it did not allow to advance beyond the first degree. At this meeting the Master stated that he could not "raise" three B.·.B.· on the same day. Meetings followed in rather quick succession on 11th and 17th June, 5th, 10th, and 15th July: at the first of these Barend Jacobus Artois was initiated, and afterwards elected a member, and at the meeting on 10th July the Lodge was further strengthened by the accession of a joining member, Bro. Coenraad Nelson, M.·.M. . It is noteworthy that these elections were made at "Table Lodge," which was frequently the occasion for proposing candidates, balloting for them, and deciding as to conferring a further degree on a Brother. On 17th June, it was decided to celebrate St. John's Day by a concert, but the minutes do not state whether the intention was carried out. On 10th July, by previous arrangement, a Master's Lodge was held at 10 a.m., and an Entered Apprentice Lodge at 4 p.m., the proceedings concluded with a Table Lodge, but the time at which that was held is not stated. At the first of these meetings the candidate was Bro. B. H. Reede van Oudshoorn, who was subsequently appointed Sword Bearer; at the second the Lodge received its first resignation, that of Bro. M. A. Bergh, the Orator, the reason of his early withdrawal does not appear. A revision of the fees payable was already considered necessary, and on 15th July they were fixed at:—

	Rixdollars.
Entered Apprentice	25
Fellow Craft	12
Master Masons	18

At two of these early meetings Collections for the Poor are noted, in the one case the amount being 6 rixdollars 3 schillings; in the other 2 rds. 20 sch.

There is no indication as to the first place of meeting of the Lodge, but in July we find the Master pointing out (at Table Lodge) the inadequacy and inconvenience of the "present building," and intimating that Mr. Lodewyk Fichtener was willing to erect a suitable building, either for hire or purchase; he produced a rough plan which, after some discussion, was placed in the hands of the Wardens and the Treasurer with a view to its improvement. At the next meeting it was decided to lease the building about to be constructed, subject to some modifications in the plan, for one year, at a monthly rental of 18 rds.; B. .B.·. Chiron and Soermans were authorised to conclude a contract with Fichtener.

We now come to a very considerable gap in the records, the Minute Book shows 8 meetings from 9th May to 15th July 1772 then follow 20 blank pages, and the next entry is 21st January, 1774; apparently it was intended to fill up the vacant space, with the result that too frequently follows "good intentions."

The Minutes of the first six meetings are signed by J. C. Gie, Secretary; those of the remaining two are unsigned, there is no record anywhere of their confirmation. The date of the last meeting is given in the Minute Book as 15th July, 1773, but this is evidently an error, the business follows naturally, without apparent interval, on that of 10th July 1772, both in regard to the building matter, and the approval and initiation of a candidate, and what is more conclusive still, the day of the week is quoted as Wednesday, and the 15th July fell on that day in 1772, not 1773.

We do not know much of the founders of the Lodge, probably most of them were in the service of the Dutch East India Company; Abraham Chiron certainly was, so too were J. A. van Schoor and Christoffel Brand, the latter becoming Resident at Simon's Town in May 1774. Oloff Godlieb de Wet was Landdrost of Stellenbosch and Drakenstein from December 1778 to February 1782, when he was promoted to be Master of the Warehouses (Theal's History). His predecessor in the former office (October 1773) was the first Orator of the Lodge, Bro. M. A. Bergh, and another joining member, Bro. Coenraad Nelson was a surgeon in the Company's service. It would seem probable that five, if not six, of the founders were South African born.

During the first two and a half months of its existence the Lodge had elected to its membership:—

Marthinus Adriaan Bergh.
Barend Jacobus Artois (or Artoijs).
Coenraad Nelson.

The first of the above had, as already stated, speedily resigned; he had received the third degree on 9th May, and Bro. Artois had been initiated on 11th June. The name of John Tabbernier has also been included in the list of members, but it seems doubtful whether he really joined, and in any case he probably did not remain long at the Cape.

Two B.:.B.:. had also been initiated, on 10th and 15th July, who subsequently became members, and most likely did so almost immediately, viz.:—

Hendrik Justinus de Wet.
Lodewyk Hanssen.

The following degrees were also conferred upon B.:.B.:. who did not join the Lodge:..

Nathaniel Halhed, of London, E.·.A. ., 9th May.
John Raitt, of London, E.·.A.· 9th May.
Pierre Antoine Joseph Laurent Maingard, of Mauritius, (aged 19), E.·.A. ., 9th May.
Thomas Bonaventure Billy, of Vannes, in Bretagne, E.·.A.·., 4th June.
John Darell, of London, M. .M. ., 11th June.
Stephen Touwens, of London, M.·.M. ., 11th June.

So that, including the initiation of the two Serving Brethren, twelve degrees had been conferred. One of the most striking features of the Lodge's history during the period 1772-81 is the proportionately very large number of candidates that were initiated, and of B.:.B.:. that received a higher degree, who did not join the Lodge, most of these were seafaring men.

During the period of which the records are missing the formal Warrant from the Grand Lodge (see appendix C) must have been received here, among the names of those to whom it was issued appears that of Johannes Snijders, but he does not seem to have ever been looked on as a member of the Lodge; he did not sign the Petition, and was not a resident here, being the captain of the ship "De Paauw," which brought Bro. Abraham van der Weyde from Holland. The Warrant is dated "the first day of the ninth month"; this was taken by Bro. J. A. de Mist, Deputy Grand Master, when confirming the reissue of the document, on 7th May, 1803, to mean 1st November, 1772, and this reading has been followed ever since; it does not, however, appear to be correct, as a certified copy of the letter from the Grand Secretary to the Lodge, enclosing the Warrant, is dated September, from

which it would seem that 1st September, 1772, must be the date of the document itself.* When only the number of the month is given, it is frequently difficult to determine whether the civil or masonic reckoning is made use of, in the first minute book of the Lodge January is always the "first month" and the others, too, are numbered in accordance with the ordinary usage, the addition of the day of the week in which each meeting was held renders this easy of proof.

It may fairly be assumed that the Lodge continued to work between 15th July, 1772, and 21st January, 1774, in much the same manner as it did before and after; we know of two degrees given during the period, and concerning others there can be no reasonable doubt. Bro. Cornelis Cornelisz was raised to the third degree on 29th January, 1777, and it was then recorded that he had been initiated here in May, 1773, and on 2nd November, 1775, Bro. Charles Smets, Captain of the ship "Cornelia Hillegonda," applied for a duplicate certificate of his being raised to the third degree here on 23rd October, 1773, the original having been lost. When the Minutes begin again we find that in the interval some of the Officers have been changed, new members have appeared, and several B.·.B. . are of a higher degree than they were.

The Minutes of 21st January, 1774, reveal the reason why the records recommence on that date. Bro. Christian Frederick German was appointed Assistant Secretary, and to him we are indebted for our knowledge of what took place during the next three and a half years. The appointment arose through Bro. Marthinus van Oorde resigning the Secretaryship and asking to be relieved of that office, his request was refused by 7 votes to 4, and he was compelled to remain Secretary for the rest of the year, but to meet his wishes to some extent the W. .M.·. appointed Bro. German to assist him. At the same meeting, the Treasurer, Bro. Bartholomeus van de Capelle, of whom we hear for the first time, also resigned, on the ground that he intended leaving for his native land by the first available vessel; he had come from Middelburg, Zeeland, and was connected by marriage with the Bergh family. On this occasion two irregularly made B.·.B. were lawfully initiated:—

Benjamin Liebregt Lehman, of Meissen, Surgeon on the ship "t' Loo," and

Ary Janse den Hertog, of Dordrecht, from the ship "t' Huys."

Nothing is said as to where they had been initiated. Another candidate was initiated, four B.·.B. were passed to the second degree, and a French visitor, Bro. Surgeon-Major Henry le Coat was elected a joining member. After so busy an evening, which included a Table Lodge, it is not strange to learn that the B.·.B. were surprised to find that it was almost midnight, and the Lodge was hurriedly closed, an additional visitor, Bro. de Lille, entering even after this had been done.

The voting on the acceptance of the Secretary's resignation (4 votes to 7) affords an indication of the number present; with but few exceptions the Minutes record only the names of those who were absent, stating: "All the members present, except ———," and it is consequently difficult to estimate what the usual attendance was. It is also impossible, with the exception of a few instances mentioned later on, to tell exactly what the membership was at any given date, for of the deaths, resignations, etc., which must have taken place, but few are noted in the minutes.

* Since this paper was written a letter has been received from Bro. J. Boudewijnse, Assistant Grand Secretary, in which he says that the records of the Grand East shew that the Warrant was despatched on 1st September, 1772 (de constitutie brief is toegezonden 1 September 1772, door den Groot Meester van Boetzelaer), that is, therefore, unquestionably the true date of the document.

The Lodge met again on 26th and 28th January. On the latter date Bro. J. A. van Schoor, one of the founders, rejoined the Lodge. It was resolved, on the proposition of the W.·.M.·., that the Lodge should meet on the first and third Friday in each month, and the following decision was come to in regard to fees:—

> "To fix the reception of Apprentice and Fellow Craft for friends from ships at 30 rixdollars, and for the friends at the Cape as had been determined by previous resolution; and that of Master at 18 rixdollars, the same for friends from ships as for inhabitants of the Cape."

On 4th February, it was decided to buy a slave, to be held as part of the movable property of the Lodge, but the intention does not appear to have been carried out, and a fortnight later it was agreed to hire a young slave, at 3 rds. a month, to assist the Serving B.·.B.·. The question of a slave cropped up from time to time; in April, 1775, a proposition to buy one from Bro. Visitor van Iperen was not carried, but one must have been purchased not very long afterwards, for in November of the same year the members arranged to sell their slave (for not less than 160 rds.) and buy another. The sale was completed on the 21st, the slave Slammat being sold to Jan Jurgen Coetse, an agriculturalist, for 170 rixdollars, to be paid in January, 1776. At the next meeting a new slave from Ceylon was offered to the Lodge, and it was agreed to hire him for a month on trial, whether it was this one or not does not appear, but a purchase was concluded in the following month, the price being 155 rds. In May, 1776, the slave then owned, September, was sold to the Serving B.·.B.·., and two others appear to have been subsequently acquired, for on the 15th August, 1777 it was reported that differences had arisen between the Serving B.·.B.·. regarding slaves; to settle these it was decided that Bro. Helberg should have the bigger of the two lately acquired slaves for 100 rds., and Bro. Deeg the other for 80 rds., while as to the purchase of the first mentioned boy, 150 rds. should be entered against Bro. Helberg in the Lodge books. The arrangement was accepted with satisfaction, and seems to have ended the Lodge's ownership of slaves.

The Lodge met thirteen times during the first half of 1774, and generally had one or more candidates for a degree. A return sent to Grand Lodge on 18th June of that year shows what progress had been made in membership; it contains the following names:—

Officers.		Masters.	E.·. A.·. and F.·. C.·
Ab. Chiron	Agt. Mr.	Philip van der Berg	P. M. Eksteen
Pieter Soermans	1ste Survt.	Bd. Hk. Rheede van Oudshoorn	
J C Ghie	2de Survt.	O. G. de Wett	Hercules Sandenberg
L Hanssen	Thesaurier	P. Joh. de Wit	Joost Hendk. Stammer
Mr. C. Fred German	Secret.	Christoff. Brand	Jan Hendk. Helberg
Bard Artoijs	Terrible	Joh. Ad. van Schoor	
H. de Wet	Swaarddrager		

The last two names on the list are those of serving B.·.B.·., leaving fifteen effective members. The omission of the name of Marthinus van Oorde is inexplicable, as at a meeting on 17th June he was present, and described as Secretary, while on St. John's Day he was elected J.·.W.·.. There is no mention anywhere else of Hercules Sandenberg (who was a bookkeeper in the service of the East India Company) as a member of the Lodge, his name does not appear in the Minute Book, and the only Register we have which goes back to these early days is one compiled by Sir Christoffel Brand in his leisure moments; a record now of great value, carefully arranged, and in the main accurate,

but not entirely free from error. There is no doubt that we are indebted to him, too, for the copy of the list now referred to, and for the copies of other documents of the greatest interest, obtained from one of the Grand Secretaries of his time.

The heading of the list states that the Lodge met in its own building, which must mean its own as lessee, not as proprietor, for in the previous February Bro. Soermans had been pressing for the completion of a lease, and later on we find references to the rent paid to him. In a letter forwarding the list to the Grand Master, however, it is said, in explanation of inability to forward a contribution, that the Lodge had to incur important expenses, having had to build their own house, and "in due course fit it becomingly for the requirements of a Lodge," but as Bro. Soermans drew rent, we may safely infer that he defrayed at least the great portion of the cost of building. In the same letter it is pointed out that the list does not afford a fair criterion of the condition of the Lodge (it certainly gives no idea of the number of degrees conferred), showing as it does such a small number of members, and quotes two reasons for the want of progress. First, warnings from the pulpit had caused wives to influence their husbands and induce them to hold aloof from the Brotherhood, and, second, people in the Indies being very fond of rank, persons would not join an Order which put forward equality as one of its maxims, lest they should injure their standing in the estimation of others.

In the Minutes of 17th June, 1774, we come to the first mention of Bro. Rutgerus van Laak, Grand Steward, 1762-1798, of whom we shall hear more later on. He was a bookseller at the Hague, and supplied various requirements of the Lodge. An account was running with him for six or seven years, and some of the correspondence with him still exists.

On St. John's Day the following Officers were elected and appointed:

Bro. A. Chiron, W.·.M.·.
" P. Soermans, S.·.W.· (1ste Opz.)
" M. van Oorde, J.·.W.· (2de Opz.)
" L. Hanssen, Treasurer.
" C. F. German, Secretary.
" B. J. Artois, Orator.
" H. J. de Wet, Swordbearer.
" P. van der Berg, Architect.

The evening was spent in festivity.

At the next meeting, on 12th August, two of the few South African born candidates who offered themselves were initiated and passed to the second degree, Christian George Maasdorp, and J. Hendrik Bletterman; a week later they were admitted to membership, together with Bro. Teerlink, "now appointed by the Company apothecary in the hospital here." The practice of conferring the first and second degree on the same evening was a very common one, and just over one-half of those who were initiated between 1772 and 1781 were forthwith passed to the Fellow Craft degree. The rule of meeting on the first and third Friday was not recognised during the second half of 1774, in August and November there were two meetings, in July none, in each of the other two months one. Laxity on the part of members in attending may have had something to do with this, for on 4th November the following resolution was passed:—

> "That any Brother absent from Lodge without excuse shall for the first time pay a fine of 1 rixdollar; for the second time pay a fine of 1 ducat; for the third time forfeit his right of membership, and his share of the property of the Lodge.

It was decided to send a copy of the resolution to six members who were not present. In carrying out this new rule, three reasons seem to have been considered valid in the case of absence without sending a written excuse: illness, absence from the Cape, and the Company's business. On 26th November a candidate was initiated "by written consent of the members," and there are several other similar cases; as a rule ballot seems to have followed immediately on proposition, probably with but few members, and in a small community, all the B.·.B.·. got to know what was about to be done, without the formalities which are now necessary.

The first meeting in 1775 was held on 14th February, when the W. .M.·. vacated the Chair in favour of the French Grand Master (Master of a Lodge) Mace de Vallons, who initiated Mr. Denis Gabriel Bourdier de la Mouilere, of Paris; the W.·.M.·. thereafter initiated four other candidates, one of them a French Canadian, Mr. Jean Barre, and then all five were crafted. At the close of this meeting the W.·.M.· proposed Bro. Hanssen, the Treasurer, as a member of the "Scotch Lodge," and Bro. German, the Secretary, offered himself as another candidate for membership; as most of the members of the "Scotch Lodge" were absent, the matter was deferred, the W.·.M.:. undertaking that it should be considered at the next meeting of that body. This is the first mention of the "Scotch Lodge," which conferred the degrees of Elû and Ecossais, or Scotch Master, and the circumstance that it coincides with the appearance in Lodge of Bro. Mace de Vallons gives rise to a conjecture that he may have brought these degrees from France. On the 17th February, Bro. Soermans, S.·.W. , proposed Bro. van der Bergh as a member of the "Scotch Lodge," and the matter was again deferred until the next meeting of that body. From what appears later on it would seem that a "Scotch Lodge" had not yet been actually formed, but some of the B.·.B.·. had already been in communication with Holland on the matter, for on 19th April the Grand Secretaries, J. P. J. du Bois and J. P. van der Haer, wrote that the Grand Master had taken on himself the care of the degrees of Elû and Ecossais, which, however, were to remain quite separate from the ordinary three degrees, and would shortly hold a meeting of the members in possession of the former, to make proper regulations in regard to the same. The W.·.M. was invited to attend the meeting and asked to furnish the names of those here who had the degrees, and the letter closed with good wishes of the usual kind. There is no further reference to this subject until the following October, when the W.·.M. . informed a meeting that in consequence of information received from Holland several of the members who, as was known to the others, possessed the degrees of Elû and Ecossais were desirous of forming a separate "Scotch Lodge," to be called "Pilades en Orestes," and had forwarded a petition to the Grand Lodge in connection with the matter; they now asked permission to use the Lodge room for their meetings, and this was granted, subject to the payment of three rix-dollars monthly, a stipulation which was readily agreed to.

The petition mentioned, which was dated 27th October, 1775, was addressed to the Grand Master National and Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge at the Hague, and applied for a Warrant of Constitution to hold a Scotch Lodge and Select Chapter, under the name already given, promising loyalty and obedience to the authorities. The petitioners appear to have been A. Chiron, Venerable; J. A. van Schoor, S.·.W.·.; P. Soermans, J.·.W. .; J. C. Gie; Mart. van Oorde; C. F.· German, Secretary; and D. Brand; the copy of the document, which is all that we now have to go by, evidently contains some mistakes in initials, but there can be little doubt as to the identity of the B.·.B.·. who took

part in the movement. In the following February, when two accounts from Bro. van Laak were submitted, it was stated that portion of the amount was due by the "Scotch Lodge," and it was arranged that the same should be paid by instalments. For some time after this there is no mention of the "high" degree body, but in January, 1779, the minutes record that in a letter sent to Bro. van Laak "he would be thanked for his correspondence, and that what has been sent by him in the service and for the advancement of the Scotch Lodge will be left lying here for his account, and that what had already been advanced by the Symbolic Lodge in favour of the Scotch one, amounting to Rds. 91, 5, 1½, shall, on remittance, be deducted from his account. Also to decline with thanks the Scotch Constitution, and should in the meanwhile the said Constitution be sent to us, then, because of the disappointment of the same, to have it immediately returned to him."

From the latter portion of the above extract it would appear as if a Warrant for "Pilades en Orestes" had never been issued, or at any rate received here.

Writing to Bro. van Laak again, in May, 1780, it was stated that deaths had removed several of the members of the "higher" degrees, and this, coupled with the oppressive laws in force, had prevented them from acting otherwise than they did; the letter thanked him most sincerely for the trouble he had taken, and added that the balance of his claim, with interest, was forwarded therewith, from which we may conclude that any questions regarding liabilities of the Scotch Lodge were amicably settled; that body, whether regularly constituted or not, cannot well have continued to work after the Symbolic Lodge suspended operations, and probably was the first to fall into abeyance.

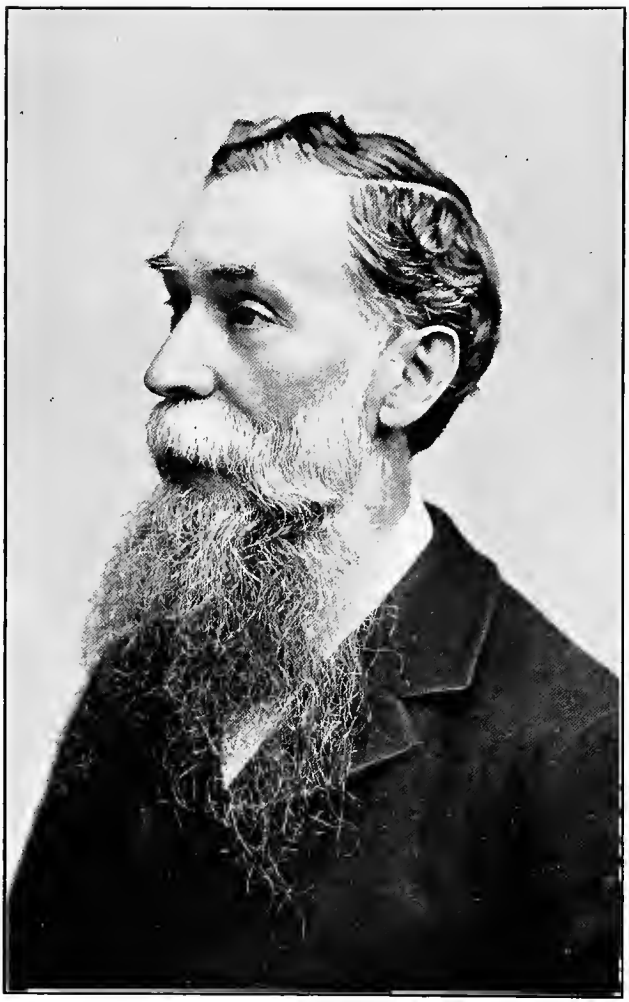
Reverting to the time when the first mention of the "Scotch Lodge" occurs, February, 1775, we find on the 17th of that month a French official of good standing applying for the third degree; he is described as Bro. Andreas Christoph. Louise Pierron de Morlat, gentleman, of Maine, native of Ernee, Registrar and Chief of the Council of Pondicherry, and was duly "raised" shortly afterwards. At the same meeting the Lodge had an unpleasant duty to perform, and, on the proposition of the W.·.M. , it was unanimously resolved that:—

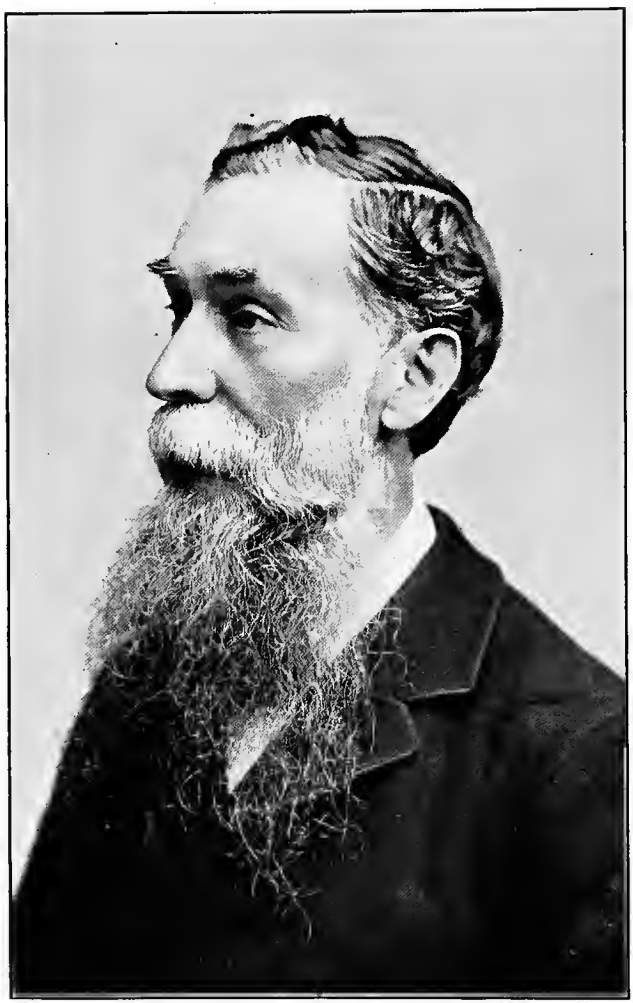
> Bro. ——— be released from his membership, the cause and reason of this resolution it is deemed better to keep secret and to cover the same with the Trowel of Love rather than publish and record anything in reference thereto—an extract resolution hereof shall, however, be handed to him.

On the 24th of the same month Bro. Daniel Brand, a future W.·.M.·., was elected a member of the Lodge; he does not appear to have been a member of the same family as Bro. Christoffel Brand, one of the founders, and we know nothing of his antecedents, either masonic or profane.

About this time it was decided to send a contribution of 10 ducats to Grand Lodge; there was no regular payment of fees in this connection, and the Lodge seems to have sent from time to time what the members thought they could afford.

On 5th April it was proposed by the W.·.M. that in future Apprentices and Fellow Crafts should not be made simultaneously in one Lodge, but Apprentices only, so as to keep in conformity with the practice of the Indian Lodges; the fate of the proposal is not stated, but if carried it was of little effect, for five weeks later we find two B.·.B.· initiated and passed on the same evening, and before very long such occurrences were very frequent, seeming ultimately to become the rule rather than the exception.





On 24th of the same month, sundry B.·.B.· were fined one rixdollar each for being absent without sending a written excuse, and Bro. ——— resigned his membership, "fearing domestic differences." On the 26th it is noted that two B.·.B. . paid fines for absence, and it was resolved to renew the lease of the Lodge premises for a year, the contract to that effect being forthwith signed by both parties, presumably Bro. Soermans and a representative of the Lodge.

Another list of members was sent to Grand Lodge on 30th April, 1773, showing:—

Officers.		Masters.	E.·. A.·. & F.·. C.·.
Ab. Chiron	Vble.	C. Brand	Hend. Justinus de Wet
Pieter Soermans	1ste Opz.	J. H. Bletterman	J. Heylberg
Mart. van Oorde	2de Opz.	C. George Maasdorp	C. Teeg
Mr. Ch. Fred. German	Secret.	J. Abr. van Schoor	
Lodew. Hansen	Thres.		
Jacob Artois	Orateur		
Philip v. d. Bergh	Hofm.		

As in the previous list of 18th June, 1774, the last two names are those of Serving B.·.B.·., the one is more generally written "Helberg," the other is apparently intended for "Johan Wilhelm Lodewyk Deeg." There are three fewer members than were shown in the last Return, and only four out of the nine founders are left, if indeed we should not say three, for "C." Brand looks very much like a clerical error; "Christoffel" had left Cape Town during the previous year, and "Daniel" had already become a member. The Orator is the same Brother that formerly figured as "Bard. Artoijs, Terrible," and Bro. van der Berg (or Bergh) now put down as Steward, was elected as Architect. Bro. Maasdorp seems to have been included by mistake, for his resignation had been recorded very shortly before; on the other hand, Bro. Gie's name is omitted, and he was in office again within two months.

With the list a contribution of 30 Spanish reals was forwarded in charge of a Bro. Pfeil; regret was at the same time expressed that, owing to the state of affairs, which could easily be perceived from the list of members, the amount could not be doubled, but, it was added, there are hopes of doing better next year. The contribution is probably identical with the one of 10 ducats already mentioned.

On St. John's Day the W.·.M.·., S.·.W. ., Secretary, and Orator were re-elected, Bro. J. C. Gie became J.·.W.·. in the place of Bro. van Oorde, Bro. van der Berg succeeded Bro. Hanssen as Treasurer, the latter resigning his membership, Bro. D. Brand was elected as Terrible, an office which seems to have been temporarily vacant, and Bro. Bletterman took the post of Swordbearer previously held by Bro. H. J. de Wet, although the latter had not been returned to Grand Lodge as such. It had been decided to admit ladies to the concert to be held in the evening, and the entertainment provided must have been an attractive one, as the festivities lasted until 4 a.m. The financial position of the Lodge at this stage was satisfactory, it being stated that the balance of its funds, together with the outstanding cash, amounted in the aggregate to Rds. 306 · 2 2.

On 9th September we find the first and only instance of the Lodge carrying out to its fullest extent the drastic resolution adopted nearly two years before, Bro. Hendrik Justinus de Wet being declared to have forfeited his membership and all rights in connection with the funds of the Lodge by reason of his absence from three meetings without sending a written and well founded excuse. A week later a meeting discussed the question of increasing the membership of the Lodge, but

no definite suggestion was put forward, and the matter was deferred for further consideration at a more favourable opportunity. In connection with the initiation, on 2nd November, of Bro. Jacobus Gysbertus Blanckenberg, assistant at the Orphan Chamber, and born at the Cape, we find the unusual stipulation that, although admitted as a member, he should have no share in the effects of the Lodge. One of the candidates received with him, Benoit Gouly, Surgeon-Major of the ship "Hippopotame," was a Roman Catholic. In two cases about this time we have a record of those who were present; on both occasions every Officer was in his place, and the numbers, excluding Serving B. .B. ·., were in the one instance 10 members and 2 visitors; in the other 11 members and 1 visitor. The Lodge had met frequently during 1775, 32 times in all, and 53 degrees had been conferred; on one occasion the visitors comprised English, French, and Dutch B. ·.B. ·.; this was in the busiest month, April, when eight meetings were held.

In the Minute Book we find a list of the members in January, 1776, sixteen altogether, excluding the two Serving B. ·.B. ·., viz.:—The eight Officers, and B. ·.B. H. Stuart, J. G. Blanckenberg, M. van Oorde (late J. ·.W. .), Josua van Yperen, Benoit Gouly, Alexis Blanchard, Christiaan van Veerden, and Johannes Francois Schubart. Some of these members could not have added much to the real strength of the Lodge, for van Yperen and van Veerden were Sea Captains, while Gouly was only a temporary resident at the Cape; of Stuart and Blanchard we know nothing beyond that they joined the Lodge, not even the Christian name of the former. Schubart took the first two degrees here. In February, 1776, the J. .W. . presided on one occasion in the absence of the W. ·.M. . and S. ·.W. ·., but no degree was conferred. On 26th March the Lodge decided to purchase four large paintings for the ornamentation of the temple from Bro. Artois for 30 rixdollars, that Brother accepting the price named somewhat unwillingly. The same evening, at Table Lodge, says the Minute Book:—

> The W. ·.M. ., Bro. Chiron, confirmed the election of Bro. Marthinus van Oorde as Fiscal, and ruled that the said Bro. van Oorde was specially bound to see that none of the brethren laughed during the firing of a charge, because such might draw very serious consequences upon himself, and that the Bro. Fiscal should have the right to increase or lower the fine of 4 schellings according to the circumstances of the case.

The above has a somewhat mysterious appearance, but relates to behaviour during the reception of a toast; how a fine of 4 sch. was incurred, or by what authority it was levied, is not apparent. On 10th May the question of the premises again came up for consideration. Bro. Soermans having notified that he could no longer continue to accept the old rental of 18 rds. per month for his house. After discussion it was decided to hire the building for 5 years at 20 rds. per month, with the stipulation that the Lodge could withdraw from the lease on giving two months' previous notice, even if but half of the term had elapsed.

Not much change was made in the list of Officers on St. John's Day, 1776, the following being the result of the election:—

Bro. A. Chiron, W. ·.M. ·.
„ J. C. Gie, S. ·.W. ·.
„ D. Brand, J. ·.W.
„ P. van der Berg, Treasurer.
„ C. F. German, Secretary.
„ M. van Oorde, Fiscal.
„ B. J. Artois, Terrible.
„ J. G. Blanckenberg, M. ·.C. ·.

A list of members which follows shows only four names in addition to the above eight, viz.:—P. Soermans, H. Bletterman, Jnr., T. B. Billy, and C. van Veerden, the last named described as a sea-faring Brother. Five names had disappeared in as many months, and only one had been added, that of Bro. Billy, who expected to remain here for two years, but left after about fifteen months. The festival closed with a concert and supper, which lasted until 3 a.m., ladies being present thereat.

Nothing particularly worthy of note occurred during 1776. Towards the end of the year we find that on some occasions the candidates had been approved in writing previous to the meeting at which they were initiated. 29 meetings had been held, most of them in the first part of the year, and 33 degrees conferred.

At the first meeting in 1777 (January 10th), a "Grand Master," Bro. Andringa, was present, and among eight visitors on 29th January was Bro. the Baron von Niewenhijm. In the same month we find a reference to the illness of Bro. Soermans, who was generally absent from meetings, presumably for that reason, and somewhat later it was decided to discontinue sending notices to him. A letter received from the Widow L. Hanssen at this time shows that a former Treasurer had died. With St. John's Day Bro. Chiron's term of Mastership ended, and the S.·.W. and first Secretary, Bro. J. C. Gie, was elected in his stead. There is no trace of any formal installation ceremony, and it may be worth while quoting the contemporary record of what took place. The newly-appointed Secretary writes as follows:—

> "The Worshipful Retiring Master rose from his eminent chair and welcomed his successor in his place, wishing him strength, happiness, enlightenment out of the East, and that he might above all increase in the Royal Art of Masonry! His Worship further proposed the same to the B. Officers and Members of the Lodge, and desired them to decide to honour him as such, wherein they unanimously acquiesced."

The election took place in a Fellow Craft (Compagnons) Lodge, and the list of Officers was a short one.

Bro. Jan Coenraad Gie, W.·.M. (Gt. Meester).
" D. Brand, S.·.W.· (Premier Surveillant).
" B. Artoijs, J.·.W. . (Tweede Surveillant).
" P. van der Berg, Treasurer.
" J. G. Blanckenberg, Secretary.

The B. .B. had resolved to celebrate the day, by themselves, with a supper; the addition of the words "without a Ball" gives rise to a suspicion that dancing, of which no mention was made, was the cause of the festivities being prolonged on previous occasions to 3 and 4 a.m.

On November 18th occurs the first mention of a working in the English language, Bro. Chiron taking the Chair to conduct an initiation in consequence of the W. .M.· not knowing the language sufficiently well for the purpose. Among the visitors was Bro. John Buchan, Surgeon in the service of His Britannic Majesty, on whose recommendation the two candidates were accepted; they were:—

> William Jarrat, born at Chatham, aged 38, accountant on the sloop "Swallow."
> John Dolbel, born in Jersey, aged 22, a surgeon on the same boat.

On four subsequent occasions degrees were conferred in English, Bro. Chiron always presiding, and as many Englishmen had previously been initiated here while that Bro. was W.·.M.·.. it is only reasonable

to suppose that the ceremony took place in their own language, and that it was not thought worth while to record the circumstance until it became necessary for another than the W.·.M.·. to take the Chair for the purpose.

1777 had not been a very eventful year; the membership seems to have remained about the same, but no list is extant. 18 meetings were held, and only sixteen degrees were conferred—a considerable falling off.

With the new year the prospects of the Lodge revived, and meetings again became frequent. On 16th January a member was gained who speedily acceded to office. Bro. Bernhardus Cornelis van Baalen, Ensign in the Company's service at "this Castle." This Brother remained at the Cape for some time; in September, 1792, he was sent by the authorities to Graaff-Reinet, where he acted as landdrost for several months. Three years later, having in the meantime been promoted to the rank of Major, he was in command of the camp at Wynberg, and on the British troops advancing from Muizenberg, he and his men retreated to Cape Town.

On 14th March a more important acquisition was made by the initiation and election as a member of a "French candidate," Capt. Francois Duminy, concerning whom much will have to be said later on, and but for whom it is very probable that the Lodge "De Goede Hoop" would not be in existence to-day. For the present it will be sufficient to add that he was "passed" on 23rd idem, and "raised" on the following 20th July, becoming Treasurer eleven months later. Among the visitors on the occasion of his initiation was the Chevalier de St. Mande. Visitors seem to have been rather more numerous than usual just now; at four meetings in March they numbered seven, nine, ten and seven respectively. Five meetings in all were held during the month mentioned, the work done being: initiation and passing of one candidate. two initiations, four initiations and six passings, five raisings, one initiation and passing. Of all the candidates, only two, Francois Duminy and Hermanus Burger, ever became members of the Lodge. On 30th March, both the W. .M. . and P.:.M.:. being absent through business occupations, the S.·.W.·., Bro. D. Brand, presided and conferred the first and second degrees. An additional Officer was appointed on 5th May, Bro. Dirk Groeneboom becoming Steward.

On St. John's Day the Officers were all changed, with the exception of the Secretary and Treasurer, those chosen being:—

Bro. Daniel Brand, W.·.M. .
„ M. van Oorde, S.·.W.
„ C. F. German, J. .W. .
„ J. G. Blanckenberg, Secretary.
„ P. van der Berg, Treasurer.
„ D. Groeneboom, M.·.C. . and Steward.
„ B. C. van Baalen, Terrible.

There was an expensive supper, which lasted until late in the night.

The B. .B. . did not, however, neglect another side of masonic life, for a couple of months later a letter was read from the Lodge "De L'Union" of L'Orient, dated 30th August, 1777, thanking the Lodge for assistance rendered to the French Bro. de Lord.

The old rule as to fining and (for the third offence) excluding members absent without good reason, and not sending an excuse, seems to have fallen into disuse, for a resolution was passed on 19th September, 1778, that B.·.B. . absent without a sufficient excuse pay a fine of 12 stuivers, and that those attending later than the hour fixed pay a fine of 6 stuivers. A good beginning was made in enforcing the new rule without respect to persons, for at the next meeting but one, four

weeks later, the two Past Masters, B.·.B.·. Chiron and Gie, were fined 12 stuivers each; two other members were absent too, but one was away from the Cape, and the other sent an excuse. At a meeting in December we find an indication that the Lodge still occupied the same premises, Bro. Soermans being described as its landlord. December was again a busy month, 5 meetings and 16 degrees worked; no addition to the strength of the Lodge, however. The year closed with an unusual festivity. On Sunday, 27th December (St. John the Evangelist's Day), two English B.·.B.·., John Allcott and Charles Lindegrien, who had been initiated and passed not long before, entertained the B.·.B.·. at a supper, at their own cost, 35 rds. 7 schell. 4 stuivers. It is recorded that Bro. Groenboom contributed a "vaderlandse" ham, and the gathering lasted "until late in the night." the last words occurring by no means for the first time.

The number of meetings held during the year had reached 27, and the degrees conferred 59.

After what was certainly an active, and apparently successful, year, it is somewhat surprising that on 9th January, 1779, the W.·.M. . found it necessary to deliver what is called an Oration to the members, in which he complained bitterly of the present lamentable state of the Lodge, and expressed the fear that through the fault of certain evil-thinking B.·.B.·. the institution might be ruined, wholly or in part. He exhorted the Past Masters and Wardens to put an end to all disputes over rank, and to discountenance ambition, self-interest, and ill-feeling towards others, more especially Brother Masons, so that all that was unfitting might be excluded from the Temple, and the future conduct of the members be such as to merit the esteem of the profanes.

It must be admitted, however, that Bro. Brand probably had good reason for speaking as he did, for certain remarks made by B.·.B. . Chiron and Gie later on show that all was not altogether as it should have been.

Then follows a sudden change from grave to gay. Bro. Chiron notified that Bro. John Crichton, lately initiated in this Lodge, was desirous of treating the B.·.B.· to a supper, "but the dinners of our ordinary cook not being tastily prepared, he invited the B.·.B. to his house, where Bro. Crichton intended to entertain the gathering right royally." We do not read of any further instances of B.·.B.·. following the example set them on the previous St. John's Day (27th December).

On 15th January a contribution of 30 piastres (= 33 : 36 **Rds.**) was voted to Grand Lodge, a considerable time having elapsed since last an amount was sent. At the meeting on that date a good deal of business was transacted, one of the most important items being the election of Bro. Capt. Matthys Willem Carel de Lille as Deputy Master, to represent the Lodge at the Hague "to transact and carry out in Europe, in the name and on behalf of this Worshipful Lodge, all such affairs as may be confided to him, just and in the same manner as if done by ourselves personally, provided that he shall render a proper account of his actions"; a subsequent resolution records that "one thing and another were placed in the hands of the aforesaid Deputy Master." Bro. de Lille, whose names are given in Theal's History as Carel Matthys Willem, was not, so far as is known, a member of the Lodge until many years later, and must have attained to the second degree only, as he received the third here on 25th January, 1781. The Lodge decided, too, to change its correspondent in Holland, placing its business with Bro. Johannes Schneider, bookseller, Calver Straat, Amsterdam, instead of Bro. Rutgerus van Laak On April 27, it is stated that the W.·.M. . and five members were present, and the

names of five absentees were recorded, viz.:—B.·.B.·. Chiron, Gie, Duminy, Van der Berg, and German, from which it would appear that the Lodge then consisted of eleven members. Those present presumably were:—D. Brand, Van Oorde, Blanckenberg, Van Baalen, Burgers and Volmar. The two last mentioned, Frederick Burgers, a Lieutenant "at this Castle," and Johan Gustav Volmar, apothecary of the Company, having been initiated and elected as members on the previous 5th September.

On 30th April we are told that for the first time the visitors included a Spanish Brother, and there was also a Spanish candidate. It seems strange at first sight to find that the name of the latter was Dennis O'Kelly, and that he was a native of Ireland. His occupation, however, provides the explanation, for he was a "Captain of Engineers in the Spanish Royal Service."

Another unfortunate gap occurs in the minutes just after this, those for the second half of 1779 being missing; 17 meetings are recorded from January to June, and 21 degrees had been given thereat. There is no direct evidence of any meetings being held during the latter part of the year, but probably they were continued as usual; there is no record of the usual election of Officers on St. John's Day, but from the later minutes the list would appear to have included:—

Daniel Brand, W. .M. .
C. F. German, S.·.W.·.
F. Burgers, J.·.W.·.
J. G. Blanckenberg, Secretary.
F. Duminy, Treasurer.
B. C. van Baalen, Terrible.

In a list which he compiled, Bro. Sir Christoffel Brand gives only three of the above names, B.·.B.·. Brand, German, and Blanckenberg, but Bro. Duminy is mentioned as Treasurer in the minutes of 7th March, 1780, and by comparing other minutes of meetings in the following months it becomes evident that Bro. Burger(s) must have been the J.·.W. .; concerning Bro. van Baalen, there is more doubt, but he was Terrible during the preceding and following years, and probably continued in office without intermission. Sir C. Brand gives the name of the J.·.W. . when it appears in the 1780 list, as C. Burger, but I think that is incorrect; Casper Burger was raised to the third degree on 18th January, 1776, and does not appear to have become a member. He is not mentioned in a list compiled on the following St. John's Day. There was also a Hendrik or Hermanus Burger, who took the three degrees in March, 1778, but he was a seafaring Brother (chief mate), and in his case, too, there is no record of membership. On the other hand, Fredrik Burgers had, we know, joined the Lodge about nine months previous to the 1779 election.

The minutes begin again on 4th January, 1780, with no hint as to the reason of the break of six months, and meetings were held frequently, even five in one month, three in another. On 29th January, evidently as a special favour, the second degree was conferred on Johan Wilhelmus Lodewyk Deeg, who had been a Serving Brother for some five years, and was about to return to Holland. From the meeting on that date, it is mentioned, B.·.B. Chiron, Gie and Duminy were absent "as usual"; the last named was possibly away on duty, Bro. Gie seems to have made a habit of absenting himself, and Bro. Chiron came when his services were needed.

An occurrence recorded at one of the February meetings is so unusual as to justify the reproduction in full of the minute relating to it:—

> The Fellow Craft Lodge being opened, the Bro. Visitor Capt. de Veye notified that he had on the desolate waves of the sea acted as Grand Master, and had accepted the hereafter mentioned as Masons in the hereby specified degrees, namely:—
>
> Hendrik Malenstijn, aged 22 years, born at Amsterdam, as Apprentice.
> Abraham Tim, as Fellow Craft.
> Robertus Timotheus van Sturman, aged 19 years, born at Emmerik, as Apprentice.
> Erhard van Kerkhellen, aged 24 years, born at Amsterdam, as Apprentice and Fellow Craft.
> Louis Carel Oudorp, both as Apprentice and Fellow Craft.
> Having made and held the Lodge on the E. Company's ship "De Wackerheyd," on 11th October, 1779.
>
> The report of Bro. de Veye having been approved, he was courteously thanked for his vigilance, at the same time received from him for the abovenamed receptions a sum of 93 Rds., and granted certificates to the said Brothers as if they had been received by us, with ———

The closing sentence of the record, which relates to certain expenses, is in part illegible, and its purport cannot now be made out. Some of the B. .B. . mentioned visited the Lodge during the following month.

On February 19th three candidates, Claude Joseph la Biolere, Joseph Gabel, and Jean Robinet, were initiated and passed "by a French Brother who acted as Grand Master"; no mention whatever is made as to the presence or absence of the members of the Lodge, and it is somewhat peculiar that in recording this, apparently quite French meeting, the degrees are termed "leerling" and "gezel," whereas in the case on the previous meeting, when there was a Dutch candidate, the words "apprentief" and "compagnon" are used. Three days later the three B.·.B. received the third degree at the hands of "the aforementioned Grand Master from France," whose name does not appear.

There are several references, on different occasions, to irregularly made Masons, and one of these occurs just about this time; a Bro. A. Donyon applied that the seal of the Lodge might be affixed to a certificate, which he had received from an "unconstituted" Lodge at Mauritius, where he was initiated; it was decided that this could not be done forthwith, and that the Lodge "Triple Alliance" should be written to enquiring why the Lodge which received the Bro. had been cut off. In the meantime he was allowed to frequent the Lodge here. With regard to two candidates initiated on 20th April, it is noted that they were proposed, through the W. .M.·., by Capt. de Graaff of "De Patriot," and we may presume that in very many other instances the members in accepting the seafaring candidates, who form so large a portion of the initiates, must have depended almost entirely on the recommendation of their shipmates. On the date mentioned, it was resolved to forward a contribution of 20 piastres to the Grand Lodge, the money being entrusted to Bro. Pieter Six, who had been initiated here some five years previously. The Lodge was now described as "the Lodge of St. John under the name of De Goede Hoop." The assistance of visitors, of whom as many as 12 were present on one occasion, had now frequently to be obtained to fill the Wardens' chairs. On the 9th May, among the initiates was Gregorius Gustavus Fredericus.

Baron van Schmalensee, aged 23 years, born at Donie, in Swedish Pomerania, and in putting his name forward, the W.·.M.·. stated that although adorned with all the desired virtues of a true Mason, he was not in a position to contribute the customary dues; they were therefore waived. At the same meeting a new Serving Bro., Peter Brewis, was accepted, to take the place of Bro. Helberg, who retired. A copy of a letter to Bro. van Laak, dated 20th May, shows that at this time a settlement of his account was made through Bro. Chiron and a Rotterdam firm, and in spite of the arrangement that business was to be done with Bro. Johannes Schneider, an order was sent to Bro. van Laak for Almanacs for 1781; similar publications had been previously received, as well as Orations, 8 B.·.B. . taking copies of the latter.

When the election of W. .M. . took place on St. John's Day, 1780, the votes for B. .B. . Brand and Chiron were equal, and at the request of the latter, the former accepted the Mastership, his Officers being:—

C. F. German, S.·.W.
F. Burgers, J.·.W.·
F. Duminy, Treasurer.
B. C. van Baalen, Terrible.
J. G. Volmar, Architect.
J. G. Blanckenberg, Secretary.

This is one of the few occasions on which the names of those present, as well as those absent, are recorded, and it would appear that in addition to the eight B.·.B. named, the members of the Lodge were B. .B. J. C. Gie, P. van der Berg, and Hendrik van Amstel; the last named had been initiated and passed in February, 1775, and was raised on 22nd January, 1780, when he presumably became a member, although there is no mention of his joining. He had acted as Warden in March, and again in May, and was not then described as a visitor, as other B.·.B. who did similar service were. The resignation of Bro. J. C. Gie, recorded (with great regret) at this meeting, reduced the number of members to ten.

The first portion of the minutes of this meeting is in the handwriting of the re-appointed Secretary, Bro. J. G. Blanckenberg, who completed the first page, at the foot of which he was in the middle of a minute regarding an application from Bro. Herscher for a certificate; on the next page the record is carried on without any break whatever, by Sir C. J. Brand (Secretary 1824-32 and 1834-5), and all further entries in the book are in his writing. Bro. Blanckenberg's name does not appear again for many years, except on one occasion when he took part in a work of charity.

Bro. Gie did not forsake the Lodge, although no longer a member, but attended the next two meetings, at the latter of which he presided, the W.·.M.·. and P.·.M.·. being absent.

The Lodge had met 17 times during the first half of the year, 38 degrees being conferred, but in the second half there was only one meeting in each of the months of September, October and November, at which two candidates were initiated and passed. At a meeting on the 18th November, rent to the end of October was ordered to be paid to the Widow Soermans, this being the first indication of the death of Bro. Soermans; other expenses also had to be met, reducing the cash balance to Rds. 3 : 12. The W.·.M. then suggested that as the funds of the Lodge were in a poor condition and the number of members was not large, the present premises should be given up at the end of the year, the greater part of the furniture sold, and an opportunity taken to find some other place where the members could assemble for receptions. The matter was discussed, but no decision arrived at.

In spite of their difficulties, the B.·.B.·. did not forget their duty, for on receiving a request for assistance from Bro. W. A. Lelli (or Letti), Comforter to the Sick on the Dutch ship "Ceres," who found himself here, with a wife and three children, in reduced circumstances, and needing help to enable him to get to Batavia, the members collected Rds. 21 : 3 among themselves, the state of the Lodge funds not permitting a vote from them.

The Lodge met once in January, 1781, and four times in February, candidates again coming forward, among them a new Serving Brother, Steven Bruynswaard, to take the place of Bro. Brewis, who had only done some nine months' service; this fresh engagement of a Serving Brother makes it seem that the members did not contemplate a cessation of work. Seventeen degrees were given in the two months.

A heavy blow now fell upon the Lodge, its W.·.M.·., Bro. Daniel Brand, dying on 7th March, three weeks after his last appearance at one of its meetings. The members met two days later to consider what should be done; only five attended, B. .B.·. Chiron, German, Duminy, Van der Berg and Volmar. Bro. Gie was present as a visitor. Three members were noted as absent, B.·.B.·. Burger and van Baalen, without excuse, Van Amstel through indisposition. Bro. Chiron presided and, after a suitable tribute to the late W.·.M. ., and expressions of regret at his loss, put it to the B.·.B.·. whether, in view of the unfavourable state of the membership of the Lodge, and its finances, it would be better to suspend work for a time or to appoint a Bro. to carry on the labours satisfactorily. The result was a unanimous request that Bro. Chiron should again undertake the duties of W.·.M.·.; to this he agreed, moved by the confidence in him shown by the B.·.B. ., but before consenting he stipulated that all commands emanating from the Chair should be strictly obeyed, that no one should absent himself from his duties without the knowledge of the W.·.M.·., unless the service of the Board of Directors should so require, that no unreasonable or unbecoming words be given expression to, but that all should conduct themselves as true freemasons, and that every regulation decided on by the W.·.M.·. or a majority of the members should be observed by all, on pain of forfeiture of membership. These conditions were readily assented to, and the new W.·.M. . on his part undertook to use his utmost endeavours to restore the prosperity of the Lodge, to instruct the B.·.B. , and to faithfully discharge the duties of his office.

Bro. Gie, touched by the spirit evinced by the B.·.B.·., made application to again become a member, stating that his resignation had been caused by the unreasonableness of several meetings and the misbehaviour of peevish members, and his name was at once added to the list. It is not possible now to tell what Bro. Gie referred to; the minutes do not disclose any proceedings which one would think likely to give rise to the remark he made.

The new W. .M.·. got speedily to work, and on the 13th March, all the members, except Bro. van Amstel, being present, conferred the three degrees on different candidates, all apparently of French extraction, as were also the visitors. The initiates were:—

Pierre de Montalembert de St. Simon, Officer of Marine on the French ship "La Providence."

Antoinne de la Richardie, Second Officer on the ship "Marianne de Sortine."

The above two B.·.B. ., with another, were passed to the second degree, and five others raised to the third.

The Lodge met again on 23rd and 26th March, 3rd, 17th and 24th April, raising the two B. .B.·. just mentioned, as well as Bro. Louis

Jean Duval, Captain of the "Marianne de Sortine," besides conferring seven other degrees.

The records of these closing meetings contain practically nothing more than the names of the candidates; even those were, we are told, in one instance obtained from a memo. made by Bro. A. de Smidt, Secretary in 1795.

Below the minutes of 24th April, 1781, appear the words "(Signed) C. F. German," and then:—

> Thus far go the rough minutes and memoranda which I have found, and have entered in this book.
>
> Lodge de Goede Hoop, 15th March, 1835.
>
> C. J. Brand, Secretary.

All trace of the rough minutes and memoranda has long since disappeared, and it is a matter for congratulation that Sir C. J. Brand transcribed them in the Minute Book which has come down to us.

It is impossible to say with certainty that the Lodge ceased to work from 24th April, but such is probably the case; there were so few B.·.B.·. belonging to it that the loss of even one active member was a serious matter, and on the 7th of the month named the authorities had hastily despatched Bro. Dumiry to India, bearing tidings of the outbreak of war between England and the Dutch Republic; with only eight members left, the position of the Lodge was very precarious, and the end was likely to come at any time.

What we do know is that the Warrant was taken back to Holland by Bro. Chiron, who probably left for Europe in 1784, and that on 16th October, 1785, the Grand Lodge formally struck the Lodge "De Goede Hoop" off its Roll as having ceased to exist through the falling off in its membership."*

Thus ended in apparent failure the first attempt to establish a Lodge at the Cape, apparent only for seeds had been sown from which sprung a few years later a revived and healthy Lodge, which is still vigorous and proud of its long record. During the nine years that the Lodge existed it had, however, amply fulfilled the purpose which was in the minds of those who first advocated its establishment, and had afforded hospitality to many a Brother travelling between Europe and the far East; it is impossible to estimate the number of its visitors, but without doubt hundreds availed themselves of the opportunity of attending a meeting while here. The Lodge must have done much, too, in disseminating a knowledge of masonic teaching, the number of seafaring men initiated would carry the results of what they learnt here far and wide.

The Lodge Register compiled by Sir C. J. Brand shows, up to this time, 187 names, and we know of one which he omitted, Hercules Sandenberg, making 188 in all. Of this number, including the founders, 41 became members, and six were Serving B.·.B.·. Many of the members can have been such in but little more than name, several being here only temporarily; short membership was the rule, only one name remaining on the list throughout the nine years, Abraham Chiron. Of the nine founders, only three still belonged to the Lodge on St. John's Day, 1776, and of the twelve members at that date, but four were left when the Lodge ceased to work. One of the most striking things in this early portion of the Register is the very few occasions on which the Cape of Good Hope is given as the candidates' birthplace, London appears more frequently. Apart from the founders, concerning

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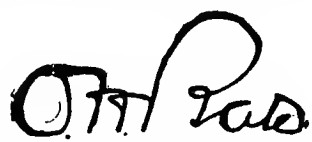
* Bro. De Mist's endorsement on the original Warrant (Appendix C) replaces the Lodge in its original position and confirms its right to claim precedence as having been established in 1772.

whom full particulars are not given, only 5 of the B.·.B.·. whose names appear were South African born. It must, of course, be recognised that the population was very small in those days, and the number of permanent residents quite inconsiderable; but if two South African born candidates came forward in 1772, two in 1774, and one in 1775, as was the case, while for 1773 the records are missing, one may fairly conclude that there must have been some reason for none whatever appearing during the ensuing six years, and there can be little doubt that the cause was that mentioned in a letter to Grand Lodge—clerical and domestic influence. Thirteen of the B.·.B.·. who joined the Lodge are not mentioned as having taken any degree; of these 3 almost certainly came here as Master Masons, 3 are doubtful, and the remaining 7 were probably initiated, passed, and raised during the period concerning which records are wanting.

The total number that we know to have been initiated is 140, passed 122, raised 84. In regard to these numbers it must be remembered that minutes for two years out of the nine are missing; the degrees conferred were therefore probably more than 400, and there were most likely a few members whose names are now lost. Few, if any, Lodges one may fairly assume can show so large a number of degrees conferred with such a comparatively small accession of members.



Chairman, Provincial Grand Historical Commission.

P.S.—The Chairman has to thank the Deputy Grand Master and other members of the Commission for much assistance rendered in the preparation of his paper; the translations which follow are the work of the Deputy Grand Master.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.

Provisional Warrant issued by Br. Van der Weyde.

AAN ALLE ONZE ZEER EERWAARDIGEN EN (AGTBAREN) BROEDERS.

Wij Abraham van der Weyde, tweede Gedeputeerde Grootmeester en gevolmagtigd der Groote Nationale Loge der Vrije en aangenoome Metselaren in de Republiek der Vereenigde Nederlanden : Ressort van de generalitijt en onderhoorige volkplantingen.

SALUT.

Doen te weete dat de zeer ijverige Broeders enz enz. enz., alhier aan Cabo de Goede Hoop zig aan ons hebbe geaddresseert, met verzoek te moogen gewettig worden tot het houden van een Loge ter deezer plaatse : Wij hun in dit goed voornemen niet hebben wille hinderlijk zijn : maar om de verpligting, die op ons legt, om 't licht dat wij 't gelnk gehadt hebben te moogen ontfangen verder te doen verspreyden tot over den oppervlakt van den aardbodem : so hebbe wij goed gedagt meergemelde Broeders te constitueren en magtigen tot 't houden eener Loge onder den naam van de Goede Hoop ; en den trap van leerling, gezel, en meester te geveen aan alle zulke leeden die zig in 't aangenoome werk van hunne pligt hebben gekweeten, en onbesprooke van gedrag en wandel sijn.

Egter op gunstige approbatie van den hoog en zeer Eerwaarde Nationaale Grootmeester Isaac van Teylingen, en verder zeer Eerwaarde leeden van de Groote Loge binnen 's Gravenhaage.

Ten vorkende deezes hebbe dit met ons gewoone handteekening en zegel bekrachtigt in 't Ooste van Cabo de Goede Hoop, den 4en dag der maandt Mey in 't jaar des ligt 5772.

Voor eensluidende afschrift waarvan het origineil in het Archief van het Groot Oosten berust, uitgericht door mi

F. A. VAN RAPPARD,
Groot Secretaris.

N.B.—F. A. van Rappard was Grand Secretary 1843-52, when he became Deputy Grand Master.

To All Our Very Reverend and Worshipful Brethren:

We, Abraham van der Weyde, Second Deputy Grand Master and Plenipotentiary of the National Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the Republic of the United Netherlands; under the jurisdiction of the United Provinces and Colonies belonging thereto.

GREETING!

Make known that the very zealous Brethren, etc., etc., etc, here, at the Cape of Good Hope, having addressed themselves to us, applying to be legally authorised to hold a Lodge at this place, we have not desired to thwart their laudable intentions, but, in order to fulfil our bounded duty to cause the Light which we had the happiness to receive, to be further diffused over the surface of the earth; we deemed it proper to warrant and empower the Brethren aforementioned to hold a Lodge under the name of "De Goede Hoop," and to confer the degrees of Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master upon all such members who have acquitted themselves of their duties in the prescribed work and are of blameless conduct and life. Subject, nevertheless, to the favourable approbation of the exalted and Very Reverend Grand Master National, Isaac van Teylingen, and other the Very Reverend Members of the Grand Lodge in the Hague.

In witness whereof we have confirmed these presents with our customary signature and seal in the East of the Cape of Good Hope, the 4th day of the month of May, in the year of Light, 5772.

Issued by me as a transcript, conformable to the original filed in the Archives of the Grand East.

F. A. VAN RAPPARD,
Grand Secretary.

APPENDIX B.

Aan den zeer Hoog Eerwaardigsten Grootmeester Nationaal Isaac van Teylingen benevens de zeer Eerwaarde Groot Officiers der grote Loge in S' Hage uitmakende het Grootmeesterschap Nationaal van Nederland.

De ondergetekende Broeders hebben 't vordeel zig met verschuldigde eerbied te addresseren aan Uw zeer hoog Eerwaardigste en Agtbare, mitsgrs te kennen te geven hoe zy uit ware zugt liefde, yver voor de Koninglyke order en kunst der aangenome Vrye Metzelaren mitsgrs. om het ligt voor zo veel in hun is, over 'd oppervlakte der aarde mede te helpen verspreiden zig versamelt hebben om een Loge onder den naam de Goede Hoop opteregten en den alhier aan wezende zeer Eerwaarde Broeder Abraham van der Weyde uw zeer hoog Eerwaarde en Agtbare Tweede Gedeputeerde verzogt hebben ons in dit grote werk te ondersteunen, terwyl wy nu tot zulk een gewensch 't oogmerk niet kunnen komen, om een wettige Loge opteregten zonder zig pligtschuldig t' onderwerpen aan Uw Hoog Eerwaardigste en Agtbare en gemunieert te zyn met een diploma mitsgr. Constitutie van de Hoog Eerwaardigste Groot Loge Nationaal, zo is 't dat wy ons tot den voornd. Zeer Eerwaarde Broeder Abraham van der Weyde gewend en hun teffens verzogt hebben, ons een provisioneele Constitutie uit naam van u zeer hoog Eerwaardigste en Agtbare te verlenen en verders keren de Supplianten zig nu tot U zeer hoog Eerwaardigste en Agtbare met deze Bede, hun het vordeel te doen, met d' approbatie en Constitutie in forma te werden voorzien.

Verbindende zig gewillig aan de Wetten die ons door U zeer hoog Eerwaardigste en Agtbare werden toegezonden zullende onder bestelling van den meerm. Eerwaardigen Broeder Abraham van der Weyde by zyn retour aan U zeer hoog Eerwaardigste en Agtbare doen toekomen de somma van Een Honderd Ducaten (waar van een obligatie aan hem in forma hebben gepasseert) zouden dezelve gaarne dit jaar overgezonden hebben dog vermit ons de occasie ontbroken heeft, zo moeten hiermede berustende verblijven.

Hebbende d' onderbetekende Broeders zig op den tweeden dag dezer vijfde maand onder bestier van den zeer Eerwaarde Broeder Van der Weyde verzamelt en de volgende Meester, Opzienders, Officiers verkozen.

Abraham Chiron tot Meester der Loge.
Jacobus Alexander La Febre Eerste Opziender.
Pieter Soermans tot Twede Opziender.
Jan Coenraad Ghie tot Secretaris.
Christoffel Brandt tot Schatmeester.

Het Cachet der Loge is dus De Hoop voorgesteld door een Juffer leunende op een anker aan den voet eenes bergs, op wiers punt de Zon scheynt, en alwaar het beeld tragt op te klemmen, met dit omschrift

Spes vincint omnia impedimenta

zijnde de groene couleur tot de Loge couleur uitgekozen.

Op voormd. Dag zijn tot Meesters gerecipiert.

Pieter Soermans.
Jacobus Alexander La Febre.
Jan Coenraad Ghie.
Christoffel Brand

En tot Leerlingen

Petrus Johannes de Wit.
Johannes Adrianus van Schoor.
Barend Hendrik Reede van Oudtshoorn.
Oloff Godlieb de Wet.
Johannes Snyders.

(FREE TRANSLATION.)

To the Most Reverend the Grand Master National, ISAAC VAN TEYLINGEN, together with the Very Reverend Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge in the Hague, constituting the Grand Mastership National of the Netherlands.

The undersigned Brothers have the privilege, with due respect, to address themselves to your Very Exalted Reverence and Worship, and at the same time to make known that they, out of true deep-rooted love for the Kingly Order and Art of accepted Free Masons — also in order to assist in spreading over the surface of the Earth, the Light, in so far as imparted to them — have assembled themselves in order to establish a Lodge under the name of De Goede Hoop, and have requested the Very Reverend Brother Abraham van der Weyde, your very exalted Reverend's and Worshipful's second Deputy (now sojourning here), to support us in this great work.

Whereas we cannot attain such a desirable object as erecting a legal Lodge without submitting ourselves by obligation to your exalted Reverence and Worship, and being furnished with a Diploma as well as a Charter from the Most Reverend National Grand Lodge.

Now therefore, we have petitioned the aforementioned Very Reverend Brother Abraham van der Weyde, and requested him to grant us a Provisional Charter in the name of your very exalted Reverence and Worship, and furthermore, the Petitioners now approach you, very exalted Reverend and Worshipful Sir, with the prayer to do them the favour of furnishing them with the formal approbation and Charter, willingly binding themselves to the Laws transmitted by your exalted Reverence and Worship.

The abovementioned Reverend Brother van der Weyde, is commissioned to deliver to your very exalted Reverence and Worship, on his return to you, a sum of One Hundred Ducats (whereof a formal Bond has been passed to him), and which we would willingly have remitted this year, but since an opportunity failed us, this course is hereby adopted.

The undersigned Brothers assembled on the second day of the fifth month, under the direction of the Very Reverend Brother van der Weyde, and elected the following Master, Wardens and Officers:—

Abraham Chiron, as Master of the Lodge.
Jacobus Alexander La Febre, Senior Warden.
Pieter Soermans, as Junior Warden.
Jan Coenraad Ghie, as Secretary.
Christoffel Brand, as Treasurer.

The Seal of the Lodge is thus:—

Hope, represented by a maiden leaning on an Anchor at the foot of a mountain, on the summit whereof the sun shines and whereto the figure endeavours to ascend, with the legend

"*Spes vincit omnia impedimenta.*"

The colour Green has been selected as the colour of the Lodge.

On the aforesaid day there were received as Masters—

Pieter Soermans.
Jacobus Alexander La Febre.
Jan Coenraad Ghie.
Christoffel Brand.

De supplianten verzoeken teffens om Vyfentwintig Certificaten en enige Wet en Zang Boeken in 't Hollands.

Waarmede, onder verwagting eener gunstige approbatie en in wensch dat het genootschap der Vrye Metzelaren verder en verder op den oppervlakte des gehelen Aardbodems versprijt zynde tot den luisterlyksten top van Eer en Roem mag komen en eyndegende zullen wy, na uw zeer hoog Eerw. en Agtbare benevens zeer Eerwaarde Groot Officiers der Grote Loge in de Protectie des Groten Bouwmeester van 't Heelal aanbevolen te hebben, met alle submissie en eerbied verblyven.

Uw zeer hoog eerwaarde en Agtbare
onderdanige Dienaars en Broeders.

ABRAHAM CHIRON, Meester.
J. A. LA FEBRE, P.S.
PR. SOERMANS, S.S.
J. C. GIE, Sect.
C. BRAND, Thresaerier.
P. J. DE WIT.
J. A. VAN SCHOOR.
....
niet prezent
O. G. DE WET.

Kabo de Goede Hoop den 5 May in 't jaar des ligts 5772.

P.S.—Door de Supplianten werden verzogt de brieven aan de Heeren Abraham Chiron, Pieter Soermans, en Jan Coenraad Gie te adresseren.

and as Fellow Crafts:

Petrus Johannes de Wit.
Johannes Adrianus van Schoor.
Barend Hendrik Rheede van Oudtshoorn.
Oloff Godlieb de Wet.
Johannes Snijders.

The Petitioners further requisition for twenty-five Certificates and some Law and Hymn Books in Dutch.

Whereby, in expectation of favourable approval, and with the desire that the Society of Free Masons, as spread over the surface of the whole Universe, may more and more attain the highest pinnacle of Honour and Renown, and finally, after committing your very Exalted Reverence and Worship, including the Very Reverend Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge to the Protection of the Great Architect of the Universe.

We remain, with all submission and respect,

Your very exalted Reverend and Worshipful's obedient
servants and Brothers,

ABRAHAM CHIRON,
Master.
J. A. LA FEBRE,
S.W.
PR. SOERMAN'S,
J.W.
J. C. GIE,
Sec.
C. BRAND,
Treasurer.
J. A. VAN SCHOOR,
.....
Not present.
O. G. DE WET.

Cape of Good Hope, the 5th of May, in the year of Light, 5772.

P.S.—The Petitioners request that the letters be addresed to Messrs. Abraham Chiron, Pieter Soermans and Jan Coenraad Gie.

APPENDIX C.

Warrant at present in use by the Lodge.

AAN ALLE EN DE EEN IEGELIJK VAN ONZE ZEER AGTBARE EN BEMINDE BROEDERS.

Wij, Carel Baron van Boetzelaer, Colonel van D' Infanterie en Capitein Effectief van de Hollandsche Gardes te Voet in dienst van hare Hoog Mogende de Heeren Staten Generaal der Vereenigde Nederlanden, &c., &c., &c.

Adjutant van Zijn Doorlugtige Hoogheid den Heere Prince van Oranje en Nassau, Erfstadhouder, &c., Hoofd Ingeland van Rynland, etc., Groot Meester Nationaal van d'aloude en Zeer Eerwaarde Maatschappij der Vrije en Aangenomene Metselaars in de Republicq der Vereenigde Nederlanden.

Resort van de Generaliteit en onderhorige Volkplantingen.

SALUT.

Doen te welen dat de Zeer Agtbare Broeders Abraham Chiron, Jacobus Alexander La Febre, Pieter Soermans, Jan Coenraad Gie, Christoffel Brand, Petrus Johannes de Wit, Joh. Adrianus van Schoor, Barend Hendrik Reede van Oudshoorn, Oloff Gottlieb de Wet en Johannes Snyders, wonende op de Kaap de Goede Hoop, zig met schuldige eerbied bij request aan ons geaddresseert en verzocht hebben om met een wettige Constitutie begunstigd te mogen worden ten einde aldaar eene geregelde Loge op te rigten in de Broederschap dezer landen te worden ingelijfd en als leden van de Nationale Groot Loge erkent te mogen worden willens zijnde zich aan onze wetten en regelmenten zoo wel d' algemeene als bijzondere betreffende volkomen te onderwerpen; belovende die niet alleen te zullen houden, nakomen en observeeren maar dezelve te helpen handhaven, enz. Zoo is 't dat wij uit aanmerking van de verpligting die op ons ligt om het licht dat wij het geluk gehad hebben te ontvangen, ook aan andere, ja tot aan de einden der bekende wereld mede te deelen, en 'dus onze edele wetenschappen in het midden van alle volken, talen en Natien uit te breiden de voorz Broeders in dit hun loffelijk voornemen, niet hebben willen tegenstaan, maar dit hun verzoek te accorderen, &c.

Ons wijders verlatende op de kundigheid, ijver en trouwe van den Broeder Abraham Chiron voornoemt approberen wij de verkiezing van dezelve tot Agtbare Meester, hem magtig makende bij deze omme de bovengemelde Broeders in onze naam tot een geregelde en wettige Loge te verzamelen en uit kragte dezer te constitueren onder de naam van "De Goede Hoop," zoo en in dier voegen als of wij zelve in hoge persoon aldaar tegenwoordig waren, latende hun toe zig met de Groene Couleur te onderscheiden van anderen; en de inhuldiging der officieren, na behoren te doen, voor zoo verre zulks een ieder van hunne respectieve bedieningen aangaal; approbeerende ten dien einde volkomen de aanstellingen van de Broeders J. A. La Febre en P. Soermans als opzienders, Chr. Brand als Schatbewaarder en J. C. Gie als Secretaris. Gevende aan de Broeders de voorz Loge: "De Goede Hoop" uitmakende, volkomen magt om den Trap van Leerling te mogen geven aan een eerlijk man onbesproken in handel en wandel, en de Broeders dewelke zig door hunne verdiensten, ijver en vlyt waardig maken, te mogen verheffen tot de Trappen van Medgezel en Meester.

Beveelende voor het overige de Agtbare Brooeder Abraham Chiron om, na de gedane verzameling van de Loge, aan ons onder adres van onzen zeer geliefden Gedeputeerde Grootmeester thans den zeer verligten Broeder Isaac

C. VAN BOETSELAAR, G.M.N.

To All and Every (one of) Our Very Worshipful and Beloved Brethren:

We Carel Baron van Boetzelaer, Colonel of Infantry and Captain on the Active List of the Dutch Foot Guards, in the service of the High and Mighty Lords the States General of the United Netherlands, etc., Adjutant of his Most Serene Highness the Prince, Lord of Orange and Nassau, Hereditary Stadtholder, etc., Chief Landholder of Rhineland, etc., Grand Master National of the Very Honourable Order of Free and Accepted Masons in the Republic of the United Netherlands under the Jurisdiction of the United Provinces and Colonies belonging thereto.

GREETING!

Make known that the Very Worshipful Brethren Abraham Chiron, Jacobus Alexander La Febre, Pieter Soermans, Jan Coenraad Gie, Christoffel Brand, Petrus Johannes de Wit, Joh. Adrianus van Schoor, Barend Hendrik Reede van Oudtshoorn, Oloff Gottlieb de Wet and Johannes Snyders, residing at the Cape of Good Hope, have, with bounden respect, addressed themselves to us, by Petition, and requested that they may be favoured with a lawful Warrant, for the purpose of there establishing a regular Lodge to be incorporated with the Brotherhood of these countries and of being acknowledged as members of the National Grand Lodge; being prepared, in general, as well as in detail, to fully submit themselves to our Laws and Regulations, promising not only to keep, obey and observe them, but to assist in the maintenance thereof.

Now, therefore, we, having regard to our bounden duty to impart also unto others the Light which we have had the happiness to receive (Yea, unto the most uttermost ends of the earth), and thereby to spread our noble science amongst all People, Tongues and Nations, have no desire to oppose the said Brethren in their laudable intention, but accede to this their Petition, etc.

Relying, moreover, on the skill, zeal and loyalty of the Brother Abraham Chiron aforesaid, we approve of his election as Worshipful Master, hereby empowering him in our name and by virtue of these presents to assemble the above mentioned B.B.·. to constitute a regular and lawful Lodge, under the name of "De Goede Hoop," in like manner, and just as if we ourselves were there personally present; permitting them to distinguish themselves from others by the colour Green; and to duly carry out the Installation of the Officers in a seemly manner, in so far as the same concerns each of their respective offices, for which purpose fully approving the appointments of the Brethren J. A. La Febre and P. Soermans as Wardens, Chr. Brand as Treasurer, and J. C. Gie as Secretary. Granting unto the Brethren constituting the aforesaid Lodge "De Goede Hoop" full power to confer the Degree of Entered Apprentice upon an honest man of blameless conduct and life, and to raise the Brethren who by their services, zeal and assiduity render themselves worthy, to the Degrees of Fellow Craft and Master.

van Teyligen scheepen der stad Rotterdam, mitsgaders Adjunct Commies Generaal van de Convooyen en Licentien over alle de Vereenigde Provincien, &c., een omstandig berigt over de zenden van zijn gehandelde ingevolge deze onze Constitutie ; en vervolgens zorge te dragen, dat aan ons, ten behoeven van de Casse der Nationale Groot Loge dezer landen jaarlijks worde overgemaakt, een Bon Gratuit na de gesteldheid der Loge ; als mede de specifique Lysten van den staat derzelve ; houdende pertinentelijk het getal der tieden, de plaats hunner Vergaderingen, waar en wanneer, wat dagen, uur, dezelve gehouden worden, met de namen der Nieuwaangenome Broeders, en derzelver bevorderingen in de Trappen der Edele Wetenschappen, en wijders met alle opleftenheid ijver, en vlijt te observeren, dat niet alleen de Ouder Reglementen en Orders van de Broederschap, maar die gene welke wij of te onzer Successeuren in der tijd, aan gemelde Loge zullen toezenden, stiptelijk te worden agtervolgd. Willen en begeren wij bovendien dat alle opvolgers van den Voorz : Meester Abraham Chiron, ons in deze gehoorzamen.

Gelastende alle geregelde en wettige Loges onderhorig aan het Nationale Groot Meesterschap dezer Landen, de Broeders uitmakende de Agtbare Loge " De Goede Hoop " (daar een bewijs van kunnende toonen) alle hartelijkheid beleefdheid en behulpzaamheid te bewijzen en doen geworden, zoo en in dier voegen uit een vrij aangenomen en wettige Metselaar aan zijne Broeders verschuldigd is, en van hem kan verwagten.

Gegeven in den Haag in Holland onder onze handteekening en aangeboren Adelijk Wapen met het Groot Zegel der Orde hier aan hangende bekragtigd den Eersten dag van de Negende maand in het Jaar des Lichts 5772.

IS VAN TEYLINGEN, Gedt Gr. Mr.
Ter Ordannantie van den Zeer Edelen Zeer Verligten en Hoog Acbtbaren Groot Meester Nationaal.
J. P. J. DU BOIS, Gr. Secret
J. A. BICHON, Gr Tres.
A. F. GONZAL, 1ste Gr. Opziener.
A. F. W. PIECK VAN ZOELEN, Tweede Groot Opz

Endorsement on Warrant by Bro. J. A. de Mist.

Wij Mr. Jacob Abraham de Mist, Gedeputeerd Grootmeester Nationaal van alle de wettige Loges van Broederen Metselaars behoorende onder het Grootmeesterschap der Betaafsche Republiek en derzelver Volkplantingen aan allen die deze zullen zien of hooren leezen.

SALUT.

Alzoo de Broederen behoorende tot de Loge de " Goede Hoop " bij ommestaande Constitutie Brief van den 1ste November 1772, wettig opgerigt, aan ons te kennen hebben gegeven : dat de oorzaken die aanleiding hadden gegeven tot derzelver verval en tot het daarop genomen Besluit van de Groote Loge van den 16 October, 1785, waren opgehouden. Waarom zij verzochten weder te mogen worden hersteld, overeenkomstig de Wet : Zoo is het, dat wij—na ons van alles te hebben doen onderrigten—hetgeen in dezen was voorgevallen, en vooral gelet op den tusschen gekomen Oorlog die de Correspondentie tusschen deze Loge met Neerlands Groot Oosten veele jaren achter den anderen heeft gestremd, ingevolge de magt door den Hoog Eerw. Nationalen Grootmeester, Mr. Isaac van Teilingen, aan ons verleend bij opene Brieven van den 30 Juli, 1802, Na rijpe deliberatie van zaken hebben goedgevonden dezelve Loge " De Goede Hoop " te herstellen, gelijk wij Haar herstellen, kragt dezes in denzelven

Moreover, commanding the Worshipful Brother Abraham Chiron, after the Lodge has thus assembled, to transmit to us, addressed to our very beloved Deputy Grand Master at present, the very enlightened Brother Isaac van Teylingen, Magistrate of the City of Rotterdam, also Assistant Receiver of Customs Dues and Licences of the United Provinces, etc., a detailed Report of his transactions, by virtue of this our warrant; and further to take care that an annual donation ("Bon Gratuit") be remitted to us on behalf of the Treasury of the National Grand Lodge of these countries, according to the circumstances of the Lodge, together with specified Registers of the state thereof; pertinently showing the number of members, the place of their meetings, where and when and on what day and hour the same are held, together with the names of the newly-accepted Brethren and their advancements in the Degrees of the Noble Science, and further to observe with every attention, zeal and assiduity that not only the ancient Regulations and Orders of the Brotherhood, but those which we or our successors for the time being shall transmit to the said Lodge, are duly adhered to. We wish and desire above all that all successors of the Presiding Master, Abraham Chiron, shall obey us therein.

Commanding all regular and lawful Lodges subordinate to the National Grand Mastership of these countries to render and cause to be rendered to the Brethren constituting the Worshipful Lodge "De Goede Hoop," (upon proof thereof being furnished) every cordiality, courtesy, and assistance, by virtue of these presents, in such manner as a free accepted and lawful Mason owes to his Brethren, and can of him be expected.

Given at the Hague, in Holland, under our Hand and Hereditary Noble Coat of Arms. Confirmed by the hereunto appended Grand Seal of the Order, on the first day of the ninth month of the Year of L.·. 5772.

IS. VAN TEYLINGEN, Dep.·. G.·.M.·.
By command of the Very Noble and Very Enlightened Most Reverend Grand Master National.
J. P. J. DU BOIS, Gr.·. Secretary.
J. A. BICHON, Gr.·. Treas.·.
A. F. GONZAL, Sr. Gr.·.W.·.
A. F. PIECK VAN ZOELEN, J.·.G.·.W.·.

We, MR. JACOB ABRAHAM DE MIST, Deputy Grand Master National of all the lawful Lodges of Brother Masons belonging to the Grand Mastership of the Batavian Republic and Colonies thereof.

To All Who Shall See or Hear These Presents Read:

GREETING.

Whereas, the Brethren belonging to the Lodge "De Goede Hoop," lawfully established by Charter of the 1st November, 1772, endorsed on the other side, have made known to us: that the causes which had given rise to the cessation (verval) thereof, and to the Resolution of the 16th October, 1875, adopted thereon by the Grand Lodge, no longer existed, wherefore they

staat, waarin zij was voor het genomen Besluit tot haar verval: en wel, ter belooning van den buitengewonen ijver van het groot aantal Broederen thans Leden dezer Loge, in denzelven rang die aan Haar, naar den datum van ommestande Constitutie Brief wettig heeft gecompeteerd; homologeerende en ratificeerende, Zoo verre noodig, alle receptien tot Vrijmetselaren, alle wettige verkiezingen van Meester en Officieren en alle andere behoorlijke daden en besluiten, door dezelve sedert het weder opvatten Harer werkzaamheden, naar de regelen der Broederschap gedaan en genomen.

Ontbieden en gelasten overzulks alle Loges, en Broederen Vrijmetselaaren gehoorende onder het Grootmeesterschap der Bataafsche Republiek de Loge "De Goede Hoop," als een wettig herstelde Loge te erkennen, en aan Haar het effect van deze onze dispositie vrij en onverhindert te doen geworden, want wij zulks ten dienste onzer order geoordeeld hebben, alzoo te behooren.

Aldus gedaan, onder onze handteekening en Zegel, aan de Kaap de Goede Hoop, op den zevenden dag van de vijfde maand in het jaar onzer tijdrekening vijfduizend agthonderd en drie (7 Juli, 1803 o.s.).

J. A. DE MIST,

Gedeputeerde Nationale Grootmeester.

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petitioned to be re-established conformably to the Law.

Now, therefore, we after having fully informed ourselves of all occurrences thereto, and having regard especially to the intervening war, which had for years in succession retarded correspondence between this Lodge and the Grand East of the Netherlands, pursuant to the power granted to us by the Most Reverend Grand Master National, Mr. ISAAC VAN TEYLINGEN, by letters patent of the 30th July, 1892, have, after mature deliberation over matters, approved of the re-establishment of the said Lodge "De Goede Hoop," as we do by virtue of these presents re-establish her in the same state in which she was prior to the Resolution adopted for her cessation (verval); and rightly in reward for the extraordinary zeal of the large number of Brethren at present members of this Lodge, in the same rank to which, according to the date of the Charter endorsed on the other side, she was lawfully entitled; homologating and ratifying as far as necessary all receptions as Freemasons, all lawful elections of Master and Officers, and all other proper acts and resolutions done and adopted by them according to the Rules of the Brotherhood since the resumption of her labours.

Commanding and directing all Lodges and Brethren Freemasons belonging to the Grand Mastership of the Batavian Republic, in consequence thereof, to acknowledge the Lodge "De Goede Hoop" as a lawfully re-established Lodge. and to permit her to enjoy the free and unhindered effect of this our Decree Dispositie); inasmuch as we have adjudged the same to appertain to the service of our Order.

Thus done under our Hand and Seal at the Cape of Good Hope on the 7th day of the fifth month in the Year of our Era Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Three (7th July, 1803).

J. A. DE MIST,
Deputy Grand Master National.

Endorsement on Copy of Charter also used by the L.·.

We, Christoffel Joseph Brand, Deputy Grand Master National of the Netherlandic Order of Freemasons in South Africa, declare this adjoining as also the endorsed writing to be a true and correct copy of the original delivered in my hand by the W.M. of the Lodge "De Goede Hoop" for preservation on account of its age—and now vested in me.

Done in the East of Cape Town, the 5th day of the fifth month of the Year of T.·.L.·. 5848 (5th July 1848).

C. J. BRAND,
Dep.·. G.·M.·.N.·.

APPENDIX D.

OFFICERS OF THE LODGE, 1772-1781.

	W.·.M.·.	S.·. W.·.	J.·. W.·.	Orator.	Secretary.	Treasurer.	Terrible.	Architect.	Swordbearer.
1772	A Chiron	J. A le Febre	P. Soermans	M. A. Bergh (Resigned 10/7/72)	J. C. Gie.	C. Brand P. J. de Wit (from 4/6/72)	C. Brand		B. H. R. v. Oudshoorn (from 10/7/72)
1773	Do	P. Soermans	J. C. Gie		M. van Oorde C.F.German, asst. (from 21/1/74)	B. v. d. Capelle (resigned 21/1/74) L. Hanssen	Do *(a)*	B. J. Artois *(b)*	H. J. de Wet
1774	Do	Do	M v Oorde	B. J. Artois	C. F. German	Do		P. v. d. Berg *(c)*	Do *(d)*
1775	Do	Do	J. C. Gie	Do FISCAL.	Do	P. v. d. Berg	D. Brand		H. Bletterman M.·. OF CEREMONIES
1776	Do	J C Gie	D. Brand	M. van Oorde (from 23/3/76)	Do	Do	B. J. Artois		J.G.Blanckenberg
1777	J C Gie	D. Brand	B. J. Artois		J.G.Blanckenberg	Do			
1778	D Brand	M. v. Oorde	C. F. German		Do	Do	B.C.v. Baalen		D.Groeneboom *(e)* (until 13/3/79)
1779	Do	C. F. German	F. Burger(s)		Do	F. Duminy	Do *(f)*		
1780	Do (died 7/3/81) A. Chiron (from 9/3/81)	Do	Do		Do	Do	Do	J. G. Volmar	

(a) Left for Simon's Town in May, 1774.
(b) Described in June, 1774, as Terrible.
(c) Described in April, 1775, as Steward.
(d) Sir C. J. Brand gives O. G. de Wet as the holder of this office, but I think it was probably the same Bro.·. who was returned to Grand Lodge a few days earlier as Swordbearer.
(e) Was also Steward from 5/5/78 to 13/3/79.
(f) Although extremely probable it is not quite certain that Bro.·. van Baalen held office during the year 1779-80.